

50. (New) The electronic card assembly as recited in claim 49 wherein said electronic card assembly deflects less than approximately 3.5 mm during said PCMCIA bend test.

51. (New) The electronic card assembly as recited in claim 50, wherein the electronic card assembly does not include a printed circuit board during the PCMCIA bend test.

52. (New) In an electronic card assembly, wherein the improvement comprises said card displacing less than the PCMCIA standard during a fingernail test which applies a force of more than approximately 100N.

53. (New) The electronic card assembly as recited in claim 52, wherein the electronic card assembly does not include a printed circuit board during the fingernail test.- -

REMARKS

Claims 46-53 are pending and new. All previous claims have been cancelled.

The Examiner's comments in paragraph 2 of the Office Action concerning the continuity information of this application as stated in the declaration of this application is noted. However, it should also be noted that because this application is a continuation of other applications, the declaration is merely a copy of an older executed declaration. The Examiner and the PTO should rely on the continuity statement provided above as suggested by the Examiner in paragraph 5 of the Office Action.

The objections to the abstract have been noted and corrected by the provision of a new abstract.

The double patenting rejections of the now-cancelled claims are noted. If allowable claims are subject to a later double patenting rejection, Applicant will consider filing a terminal disclaimer.

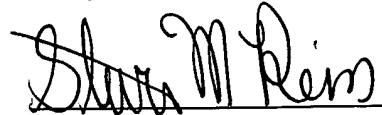
Claims 40-45 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being obvious over Persia in view of Kilmer. In so far as the Examiner may consider applying this rejection and/or these references against current claims 46-53, the following should first be taken into account.

Concerning claims 46, 47, 49, 50, and 52 these claims recite a card assembly capable of resisting test conditions **well in excess** of the standard PCMCIA test conditions. The cited prior art does not show this. Furthermore, if something is a "standard", that means most skilled in the art would design specifically towards it and a design that exceeds the standard would be unobvious. Accordingly, these claims should be allowable for at least that reason.

Concerning claims 48, 51, and 53, the Examiner states that it would have been obvious to test the electronic card assemblies without PCBs inside to obtain their exact deformation characteristic. However, that is not the point. The point is that even without the stiffening effect provided by the PCBs within the electronic card assemblies, Applicants are obtaining an electronic card assembly far superior in physical properties to a conventional card.

All the claims being allowable, an early indication as such is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

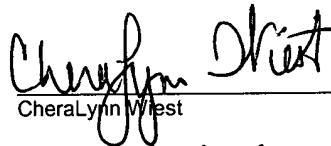


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09/916,491

Patent Nos.:

Date application was signed by the first
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Name: Vincent J. Roccia
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215-568-3100

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: one

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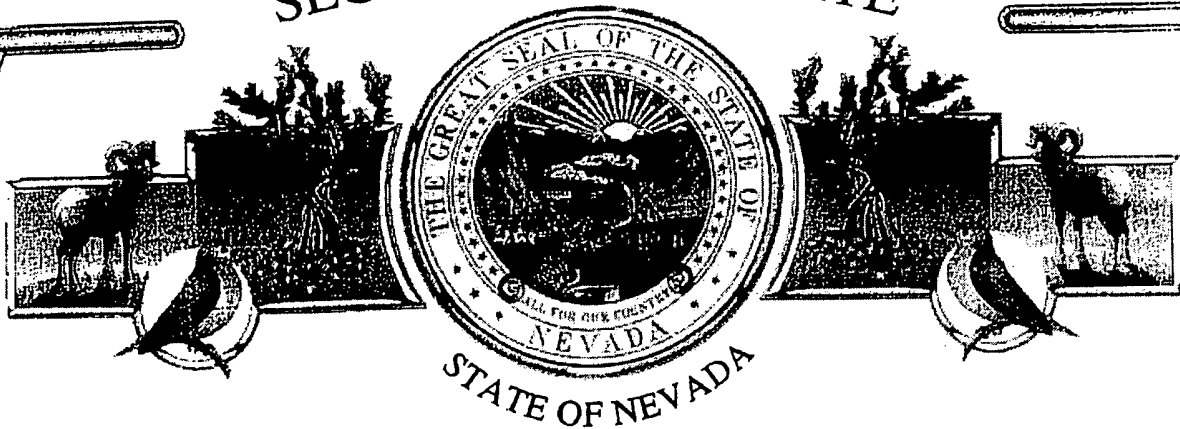
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Articles of Incorporation for BERG TECHNOLOGY, INC. filed January 22, 1993.

Certificate of Amendment to Articles of Incorporation changing name to FCI AMERICAS TECHNOLOGY, INC. filed June 11, 1999.

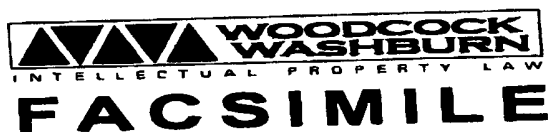
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